

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 00194 161030Z

64

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

OMB-01 /055 W

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R 160944Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2632

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 194

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT,NG

SUBJECT: DISMISSAL OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INFORMATION LOUTOU

REFS: NIAMEY 134 AND PREVIOUS

WITHIN 48 HOURS OF HIS RETURN FROM ADDIS PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE SACKED SEC. OF STATE FOR INFO IBRAHIM LOUTOU FOR MISHANDLING GON'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITS RECEPTION OF MPLA ON EVE OF OAU SUMMIT MEETING (REFTEL). OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS JAN 15. STATED THAT LOUTOU WAS RELIEVED OF HIS MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST BECAUSE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES HE HAD CONTRIBUTED TO CONFUSION ABOUT NATIONAL POLICIES AND HAD GIVEN RISE TO RUMORS AND ALLEGATIONS PREJUDICIAL TO PEACE IN THE COUNTRY. MORE SPECIFICALLY LOUTOU WAS BEING BLAMED FOR WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PREMATURE RELEASE OF GON DECISION TO RECOGNIZE MPLA. APPARENTLY KOUNTCHE HAD PLANNED MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN ADDIS ONLY TO FIND THAT ANNOUNCEMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE IN NIAMEY KOUNTCHE DOES NOT LIKE SLOPPY WORK OR BEING UPSTAGED AND RETRIBUTION WAS SWIFT. COMMENT : WHILE KOUNTCHE'S DISCOMFORT IS UNDER-

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STANDABLE, LOUTOU'S DISMISSAL IS UNFORTUNATE

IN THAT IT REMOVES FROM SCENE ONE OF MORE
SOPHISTICATED AND WELL INFORMED CABINET MINISTERS,
AS WELL AS ONE OF FEW REMAINING NON-DJERMAS IN
CABINET (LOUTOU BEING OF HAUSE-PHEUL PARANTAGE)
AND FURTHER NARROWS LEADERSHIP BASE FROM WHICH
KOUNTCHE OPERATING. HECK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, CABINET, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760018-0079
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760150/aaaabrzm.tel
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Reference: 76 NIAMEY 134
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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Subject: DISMISSAL OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INFORMATION LOUTOU
TAGS: PINT, NG, (LOUTOU, IBRAHIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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